

Operation and Installation Manual BP1000 Series Granulators Models BP1012 and BP1018

Important! Read Carefully Before Attempting to Install or Operate Equipment

Write down your granulator	
serial numbers here	
for future reference.	
Sterling can advise you on proper selection and sizing of senvironment.	systems for your operating
Sterling is committed to a continuing program of product im appearance, and dimensions described in this manual are notice.	
DCN No.	Effective: 9/27/2005
DCN No © Copyright Sterling 2002 All rights reserved.	

Sterling Warranty Information

Thank you for your purchase of your new BP1000 Series Granulator. We are confident that you will have excellent results and trouble-free operation with this machine.

When the machine arrives at your plant, inspect it carefully for shipping damage before uncrating and immediately report any damage to your transportation company. All shipments are FOB South Attleboro, Massachusetts.

Customer Satisfaction Warranty Program for BP1000 Series Granulators:

The terms and conditions of the warranty set forth are for one (1) year from the original date of purchase by the original purchaser.

Sterling warrants to the original purchaser the product and/or goods to which this disclaimer is attached, and manufactured by us, to be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use and service. THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANT ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, AND ALL OTHER OBLIGATIONS AND LIABILITIES ON OUR PART.

This warranty shall not apply to any goods or product manufactured by us which has been subject to accident, negligence, alteration of any kind, abuse, or misuse. We further make no warranty whatsoever in respect to accessories or parts not supplied by us. Any warranty of any nature shall apply only to an "original purchaser" which shall be deemed to mean that person or entity for whom the goods and/or product were originally ordered and installed.

We neither assume nor authorize any person to assume for us any liability in connection with the sale or use of the products and goods sold hereunder, and shall not be responsible for damages for which a purchaser may be liable to other persons, damages to property, or injuries to any other persons.

Our sole obligation under this warranty shall be limited to replacing, repairing, or exchanging any part or parts of goods and/or products sold which we determine are defective under normal use and service within one (1) year of date of installation by the original purchaser. We shall not be liable for any loss or damage resulting directly or indirectly from the use or loss of the goods and/or products purchased. In no event shall we be liable for any general, direct, consequential, incidental, or special damages of any kind.

We do not warrant any of our products that are installed in other machines or apparatus as meeting requirements of any safety code of any nature. The purchaser assumes all risks and liabilities resulting from the installation and use of product sold by us in combination with other machines or apparatus.

Sterling Warranty Information

We warrant our product to be of the kind and quality quoted, and no other warranty except of title shall be implied. Our company shall repair or replace, at our discretion, any manufactured item on your BP1000 Series Granulator without charge FOB factory, within one (1) year after date of original purchase, which is proved to be defective when shipped. Claims for labor or consequential damages are not allowed.

Excluded from the above are knives, screens, and belts. Purchased items, including electrical components, motors, etc., shall carry the warranty of the supplier and no extension of that warranty is allowed.

Refer to this manual for assistance in installing and maintaining a highly efficient machine. Questions regarding areas that are not covered in the manual should be referred to the customer service manager at the factory at (800) 229-2919.

Table of Contents

1	Safety	y Considerations	9
	1-2	Safety Guidelines Safety Procedures 1-2-1 Guidelines for Moving the Granulator 1-2-2 Clearing a Jammed Cutting Chamber Safety Features 1-3-1 Safety Features Fitted On the Granulator 1-3-2 Opening the Granulator 1-3-3 Sound Enclosure	9 11 11 11 12 12 13 14
2	Gene	ral Information	17
		Introduction Using This Manual Safety Symbols Used in This Manual Description 2-4-1 Technical Data 2-4-2 Main Components of Standard Granulators 2-4-3 Optional Equipment	17 17 18 18 18 19
3	Shipp	oing Information	21
	3-2 3-3 3-4 3-5	Unpacking and Inspection In the Event of Shipping Damage If the Shipment is Not Complete If the Shipment is Not Correct Returns Uncrating Your Granulator	21 21 21 22 22 22
4	Instal	lation	24
	4-2 4-3	Lifting Positioning the Granulator Electrical Connection Start-Up Checks 4-4-1 Checking the Cutting Chamber 4-4-2 Checking Rotation Direction 4-4-3 Test the Interlock Switches 4-4-4 Checking Knife Position	24 24 25 26 26 27 28

5	Start Up and Operation	<i>30</i>
	5-1 Pre-Operational Checklist5-2 Operation	30 31
6	Maintenance	<i>32</i>
	 6-1 General Recommendations 6-2 Monthly Maintenance Operations 6-2-1 Drive Belt Tension 6-2-2 Proper Belt Tension 6-2-3 Belt Replacement 6-3 Removal and Replacement of the Screen 6-4 Inspection and Adjustment of Knives 6-5 Removing and Replacing Bed Knives 6-6 Removal and Replacement of Rotating Blades 6-7 Specifications for Resharpening Bed Knives 6-8 Specifications for Resharpening Rotor Knives 	32 33 33 34 34 35 37 38 39 40
7	Troubleshooting	41
	7-1 General Problems7-2 Electrical Problems	41 43
8	Spare Parts	44
	8-1 Table 1: Recommended Spare Parts List	44
9	Typical Wiring Diagram	49
10	Contact Information	50

Table of Figures

1.	Safety Switch	13
	Control Panel	14
<i>3.</i>	Noise Test Specifications	<u>15</u>
4.	Average Sound Levels	<u>15</u>
<i>5.</i>	Noise Test Method	<u>16</u>
_	Main Components of Standard Granulators	
7.	Overall Dimensions and Weights	20
8.	Lifting the Granulator	23
	Inserting the Bin	<u>25</u>
	Electrical Connections	<u> 26</u>
11.	Removing the Screw Knob	27
2.	Checking the Knife Gap	29
	Periodic Maintenance Table	<u>32</u>
	Belt Tension Chart	34

<i>15.</i>	Removing The Screen	35
16.	Inspection of Knives	37
<i>17.</i>	Bed Knife Specifications	40
18.	Rotor Knife Specifications	40
19.	Cutting Chamber - Vertical Cross Section	45
20.	Cutting Chamber - Longitudal Cross Section	46
21.	Cutting Chamber - Front View	47
22.	Cutting Chamber - Rear View	48

1-1 Safety Guidelines

Our granulators are designed to provide safe and reliable operation when installed and operated within design specifications, following national and local safety codes.

To avoid possible personal injury or equipment damage when installing, operating, or maintaining this granulator, use good judgment and follow these safe practices:

- ☑ LEARN AND OBEY your company's safety policy regarding granulating equipment.
- MOVING OR LIFTING THE GRANULATOR: Although our equipment is built and engineered for great ruggedness in operation, care must be taken when moving the machine along the floor or lifting it. Damage may occur to sheet metal covers, electrical cabinets, or small brackets if pressure is applied to them when moving the granulator. When lifting the granulator, be certain of total machine weight and the capability of the lifting equipment. (See the Granulator Specification Sheets for machine weights and dimensions.)
- ☑ **GRANULATOR LOCATION:** Adequate area for routine maintenance should be provided in order to open the machine for knife, screen, or cleanout service. Proper service area clearances also should allow people who are working on the machine to be clearly visible to others, thereby reducing the potential safety hazards.
- SAFE HOUSEKEEPING: The work area must be kept clean and uncluttered during periods of operation or maintenance. No hand tools or other metal objects should be left on or around the machine. Any tools or other metal objects which mistakenly fall into the hopper feed opening can cause severe damage to internal cutting chamber and screen chamber components.
- SAFETY GLASSES OR A FACE SHIELD MUST ALWAYS BE WORN when servicing or operating the machine. Although our machines are designed for the maximum in flyback control, caution must be used when operating near the hopper feed opening in order to guard against unexpected material flyback.

- ☑ EAR PROTECTION may be required when operating the machine during granulation of very hard or noisy materials. The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 has established guidelines for Permissible Noise Exposures (OSHA 1910.95) that should be followed.
- NEVER attempt to operate the granulator unless it is fully assembled with all guards and interlocks in place and functional.
- ☑ **OBSERVE** all danger, warning, caution and safety labels on the equipment.
- Upon completion of any machine maintenance, be certain ALL SAFETY GUARDS AND COVERS are securely and properly fastened prior to resuming machine operation. All fasteners must be in place and properly tightened. ANY SHORTCUTS MAY RESULT IN INJURY TO PERSONNEL OR DAMAGE TO EQUIPMENT.
- NEVER wear any loose fitting clothes, neckties, or dangling items such as earrings, belts, or shoestrings. Jewelry, such as wristwatches, bracelets, or rings should NEVER be worn. Long hair must be tied back or placed in a tight fitting hairnet. NEVER lean against or rest hands or feet on the granulator when it is in operation or open for maintenance. NEVER stand on the granulator when it is in operation.
- ☑ **ROTATION OF MOTORS:** All rotating items in the granulator are clearly marked on the machine. Always check for proper rotation of motors.
- ☑ ELECTRICAL GROUNDING: All electrical equipment on the granulator must be grounded in accordance to all local codes and Article 250 of the National Electric Code.
- ALWAYS DISCONNECT AND LOCKOUT the main electrical power to the granulator before performing any service.
- SAFETY INTERLOCKS MUST NOT BE BYPASSED.
 The mechanical and electrical safety interlocks ensure the safety of personnel. They should never be tampered with or removed for ANY reason. They should be checked frequently by a qualified mechanic for proper operation.
- ✓ **NEVER** modify the machine configuration or any individual component without written consent from Sterling Corp.

For further information on granulator safety, installation, and operation, see the *American National Standard for Plastics Machinery—Granulators, Pelletizers, and Dicers Used for Size Reduction of Plastics—Construction, Care, and Use.* ANSI B151.11-1982.

Sterling has long recognized the importance of safety and has designed and manufactured its equipment with operator safety as a prime consideration. We expect you, as a user, to abide by the foregoing recommendations in order to make operator safety a reality.

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT

1-2 Safety Procedures

1-2-1 Guidelines for Moving the Granulator

To lift and move the granulator safely and correctly, cover any sharp corners or edges, and use the type of equipment that has the most appropriate features and capacity.

Before lifting, check that there are no items that could fall during lifting.

Before positioning the granulator, check that the floor is level and is strong enough to support the load, that there is adequate space in the installation area to allow the movement of equipment necessary to the task and to enable any necessary maintenance work to be carried out unhindered.

1-2-2 Clearing a Jammed Cutting Chamber

- 1. Disconnect and lockout power.
- 2. Be certain that the rotor is motionless.
- 3. Open the front panel and remove the bin.
- 4. Unscrew the screw knob, which keeps the hopper and screen cradle in place.
- 5. Remove the screen.

!! CAUTION !!

NEVER ATTEMPT TO FREE A JAMMED MACHINE BY PLACING HANDS ON ROTOR, ROTOR KNIVES, OR WITHIN THE CUTTING CHAMBER.

HANDS MUST BE KEPT CLEAR OF THE ROTATIONAL PATH OF THE ROTOR KNIVES.

A block of wood should be used to exert force on the rotor, usually in the direction opposite normal rotation.

Good footing on a clean floor is essential and the body should be well braced when performing this act. Guard against loss of balance should the jammed conditions suddenly come free.

A leather mallet and block of wood of sufficient length to keep hands away from the path of knives can be used if required.

Use pliers in removing material from the cutting chamber, keeping in mind that the removal of material may cause rotation of the rotor and rotor knives.

After clearing the jam, be certain that the hopper screen, and all guards and covers are secured in place before connecting power and starting the machine.

1-3 Safety Features

The granulators are equipped with safety features intended to protect personnel and the granulator. Do NOT remove or tamper with such equipment.

1-3-1 Safety Features Fitted On the Granulator

All moving drive parts, including the two pulleys and the belt, are contained in a guard, which may only be removed using specific tools and moreover cannot be fixed in the correct position without special fastenings.

Warning!

Always make sure that the guard is in position before starting the granulator.

The upper part of the cutting chamber is protected by the feed hopper, used to insert material to be granulated while the lower part is protected by the screen, and screen support. These components are fixed by a screw knob, unscrewing releases a safety switch key (Figure 1), which cuts off the electric supply to the motor, causing the rotor to stop.

The method of opening the granulator has been designed to restrict operator access, allowing the rotor and all moving knives to stop completely. To allow operator access more quickly could be dangerous as it might be possible to make contact with the granulator knives while they are still rotating.

Figure 1: Safety Switch



1-3-2 Opening the Granulator

The Start/Stop lighted pushbutton provided on the control panel (Figure 2) is used to operate the granulator. The button must be pressed to stop the granulator and pulled out to start.

Before performing any maintenance or opening the granulator, perform the following procedure:

- 1. Turn off the granulator using the pushbutton provided.
- 2. Turn the disconnect switch to OFF and lockout power. (If you cannot lock out power, remove the power fuses in the control panel.)

- 3. Tag the machine as Out of Service.
- 4. Make sure the rotor has come to a complete stop.

Warning!

Wear protective gloves when exposed to knives.

Figure 2: Control Panel



1-3-3 Sound Enclosure

Research has been conducted to assess the noise generated by the operation of Sound Enclosed Granulator Models BP1012 and BP1018.

The testing is intended to determine a General Noise Level during the operation of the granulator. Although the operating noise levels vary with different processed materials, material configurations, throughputs, and conveying methods, the information presented here will give the user an average noise level that operators may be exposed to.

Reference was made to the following technical regulations to establish the noise emitted by the machine:

- S.P.I. Noise Test Noise Measurement Procedure for Granulators, by the Society of the Plastic Industry.
- UNI7712 Machine Tools Determining Noise in the Working Environment – 1977
- ISO3746 Acoustics Determination of Sound Power Level of Noise Sources – Engineering method for free field conditions over a reflecting plane – 1981
- ISO3746 Acoustics Determination of Sound Power Level of Noise Sources – Survey method – 1979
- DIN45635 Measurements of airborne noise emitted by machines Enveloping measuring method 1972.

The technical specifications of the Sound Enclosed Granulator Models BP1012 and BP1018 (Figure 3) and the test methods used to establish the noise level generated are described below (Figure 5). Figure 4 gives the mean sound levels Lpm in dB(A) for each model of machine, as well as an average of the sound levels measures at the four positions shown on the diagram below.

Figure 3: Noise Test Specifications

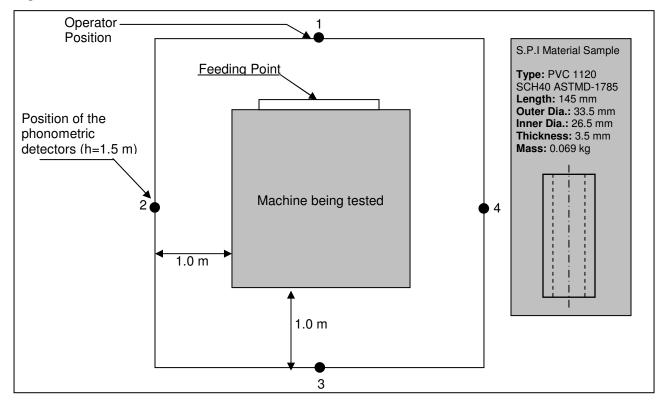
Model	Motor Power	Impeller Speed	Production *	75% Production	Test Supply (SPI Method)	
	kW	Rev./min.	Kg/h	Kg/h	Pcs. No./min.	Kg/h
BP1012	5.5	340	140	105	24	99.5
BP1018	7.5	340	200	150	36	149.0

Figure 4: Average Sound Levels

Model BP101	2 Sound Enclosed	Model BP1018 Sound Enclosed		
Position Sound Levels in dB(A)		Position	Sound Levels in dB(A)	
1	84.3	1	86.0	
2	83.6	2	85.6	
3	82.6	3	84.1	
4	82.2	4	84.1	
Lpm	93.2	Lpm	85.0	

^{*} All Granulators provided with 5/16" (8 mm) Diameter Hole Screen.

Figure 5: Noise Test Method



2-1 Introduction

This family of granulators has been designed to granulate plastic material such as sprues, runners, and small reject parts.

The granulator is comprised of an infeed hopper into which the material to be granulated is fed, mounted on a cutting chamber in which a series of rotary and bed knives reduce the material to granules, the size of which is determined by the screen holes. The granules fall and collect in the bin below. The operation of the granulator is controlled by a control panel and powered by an electric motor.

2-2 Using This Manual

Use this manual as a guide and reference for installing, operating, and maintaining your granulator. The purpose is to assist you in applying efficient, proven techniques that enhance equipment productivity.

The General Information section outlines models covered, standard features, and available options. Additional sections within the manual provide instructions for installation, pre-operational procedures, operation, preventive maintenance, and corrective maintenance.

Installation instructions include all required data for receiving, unpacking, inspecting, and setup of the granulator. Whenever possible, illustrations have been included to help you complete these tasks more efficiently. We can also provide the assistance of a factory-trained technician to help train your operator(s) for a nominal charge.

Pre-operational procedures include instructions, checks, and adjustments that should be followed before commencing with operation of the granulator. These instructions are intended to supplement standard shop procedures performed at shift, daily, and weekly intervals.

The Operation chapter includes a description of electrical and mechanical controls, in addition to information for operating the granulator safely and efficiently.

The Maintenance chapter is intended to serve as a source of detailed assembly and disassembly instructions for those areas of the equipment requiring service. Preventive maintenance sections are included to ensure that your granulator provides excellent, long service.

The Troubleshooting chapter serves as a guide for identification of most common problems. Potential problems are listed, along with possible causes and related solutions.

The Spare Parts section contains a list of parts that may require replacement. A spare parts list with part numbers specific to your machine is provided with your shipping paperwork package. Refer to this section for a listing of spare parts for purchase. Have your serial number and model number ready when ordering.

2-3 Safety Symbols Used in This Manual

The following safety alert symbols are used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow these symbols to avoid possible injury or death.

DANGER indicates an *imminently* hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, *will* result in death or serious injury.

WARNING indicates a *potentially hazardous* situation or practice which, if not avoided, *could* result in death or serious injury.

CAUTION indicates a potentially hazardous situation or practice which, if not avoided, *may* result in minor or moderate injury, or in property damage.

2-4 Description

2-4-1 Technical Data

Infeed: Front or top entry

Infeed hopper: For manual feeding

Cutting Chamber: Upright bolted type

Rotor: 3 knife rotor w/lateral disks

Cutting System: Scissor action with double angle cutting

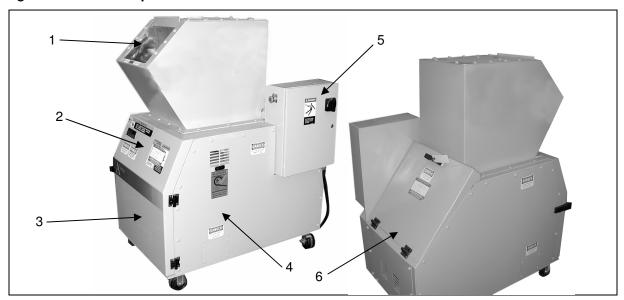
Knives: Tool steel

2-4-2 Main Components of Standard Granulators

(See Figure 6)

- 1. Infeed hopper
- 2. Cutting chamber
- 3. Bin for granulated material
- 4. Belt drive
- 5. Control panel
- 6. Electric motor

Figure 6: Main Components of Standard Granulators

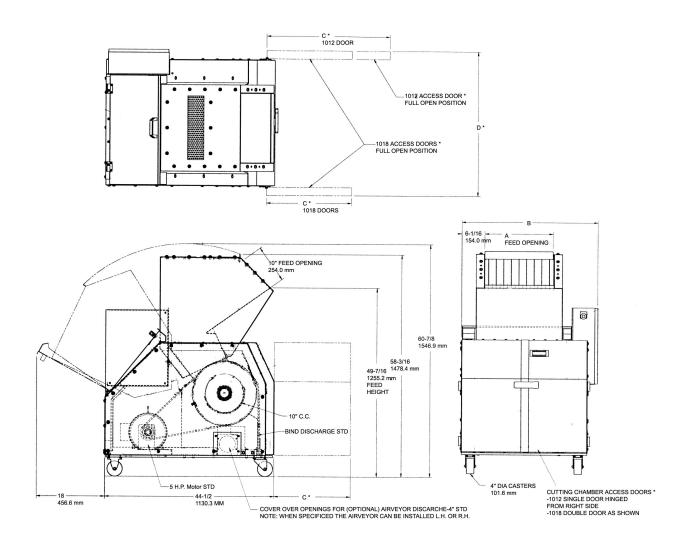


2-4-3 Optional Equipment

- Conveyor
- Other screen hole sizes
- Blower/airveying system
- Vacuum bin
- Special operating voltages

Figure 7: Overall Dimensions and Weights

Model	Α	В	С	D	Weight
BP1012	12 1/4 (311 mm)	29 7/8 (759 mm)	27 (686 mm)	30 (762 mm)	1200 lbs (500kg)
BP1018	18 1/4 (464 mm)	35 7/8 (911 mm)	17 3/8 (441 mm)	38 3/16 (970 mm)	1350 lbs (580kg)



3-1 Unpacking and Inspection

You should inspect your granulator for possible shipping damage.

Thoroughly check the equipment for any damage that might have occurred in transit, such as broken or loose wiring and components, loose hardware and mounting screws, etc.

3-2 In the Event of Shipping Damage

Important!

According to the contract terms and conditions of the Carrier, the responsibility of the Shipper ends at the time and place of shipment.

Notify the transportation company's local agent if you discover damage

Hold the damaged goods and packing material for the examining agent's inspection. **Do not return any goods before the transportation company's inspection and authorization.**

File a claim with the transportation company. Substantiate the claim by referring to the agent's report. A certified copy of our invoice is available upon request. The original Bill of Lading is attached to our original invoice. If the shipment was prepaid, write us for a receipted transportation bill.

Advise the shipping department regarding your wish for assistance and to obtain an RMA (return material authorization) number.

3-3 If the Shipment is Not Complete

Check the packing list as back-ordered items are noted on the packing list. You should have:

- **☑** Granulator
- ☑ Bill of lading
- **☑** Packing list

- ☑ Operating and Installation packet
- ☑ Detailed recommended spare parts list
- ☑ Electrical schematic and panel layout drawings
- ☑ Component instruction manuals

Re-inspect the container and packing material to see if you missed any smaller items during unpacking.

3-4 If the Shipment is Not Correct

If the shipment is not what you ordered, **contact the shipping department immediately**. For shipments in the United States and Canada, call 1 (800) 229-2919; for all other countries, call our international desk at (508) 399-3100. Have the order number and item number available.

Hold the items until you receive shipping instructions.

3-5 Returns

Important!

Do not return any damaged or incorrect items until you receive shipping instructions from the shipping department.

3-6 Uncrating Your Granulator

Prepare in advance the site you have selected for installation of the granulator. Be certain that the area to be occupied by the machine is clean, level, and free of obstructions. The site you have selected must have a floor rating to adequately support the weight of the machine.

Your granulator is mounted on a wooden skid and blocked and banded to secure it for shipment. All non-painted items subject to corrosion are coated with a quality rust preventative, and the machine is covered with heavy-duty polyethylene to protect it from moisture and dirt. Granulators are normally shipped completely assembled unless the size of the machine or an agreement for special shipping arrangements prompts partial assembly.

If inspection, after shipment, has revealed no shipping damage, unpack the unit by removing the polyethylene protective covering and banding. Remove the envelope with the parts list, assembly

drawings, electrical schematics, and manual from the base evacuation area.

You can now have the machine lifted from the skid. A forklift is ideal for the purpose, but take care to **properly position the forks** between the casters and the centrally mounted evacuation pipe from the side of the machine. (See Figure 8)

Figure 8: Lifting the Granulator



! CAUTION!

Do not attempt to lift the granulator by means of any shaft or protruding member, ESPECIALLY THE HOPPER

4-1 Lifting

Important!

Before lifting or moving the granulator, check the relative weight shown on the shipping papers and in Figure 7.

To facilitate the lifting operation using forklift trucks, the drop box has been removed from the granulator and is packed with any spare parts.

When using a forklift to move the granulator, make sure it is suitable for the weight and dimensions of the granulator. When moving, take care not to damage delicate parts. To lift the machine with a forklift, place the carriage forks under its base (See Figure 8). Where a forklift truck is not available, it is possible to use cables or belts, provided that they are strong enough to support the weight of the granulator, then carry out the lifting procedure.

Important!

During the movement, the load must remain in a horizontal position, regardless of the type of equipment used.

4-2 Positioning the Granulator

Important!

Make sure that the base on which the granulator is supported is solid and completely level, in order to rigidly support the granulator without its being subjected to vibration. It is recommended that the floor be reinforced concrete with a very smooth support surface.

Place the granulator in an area large enough to allow sufficient space on all sides for the operator to carry out maintenance.

Although the granulator controls and electrical components comply with CEE & NEMA codes and regulations, the machine must be placed in an area free from humidity, dampness, and

water. The granulator should be installed in an inside covered, weather-proof environment and away from any areas where water collects on the floor.

Once the granulator is in position, the front panel must be opened in order to insert the bin as illustrated in Figure 9.

Figure 9: Inserting the Bin



4-3 Electrical Connection

It is extremely important that the machine is correctly wired into the plant power source by a licensed electrician. See Section 9 for a wiring diagram.

All electrical equipment must be properly grounded in accordance with local and national codes to protect personnel from electrical shock. A fusible, lockable disconnect between the plant power source and the machine electrical cabinet is highly recommended.

!!Caution!!

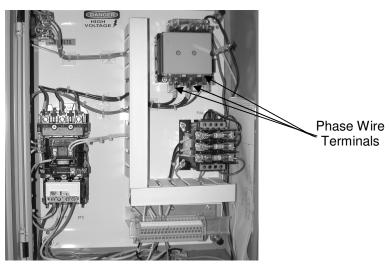
Before connecting the power, check that the power cable size and capacity corresponds to the horsepower and amp load indicated on the granulator label and that the disconnect switch is in the OFF position. (See Figure 2.)

Unless otherwise specified, the granulator has been wired for 480 volts, 60 Hz, 3 ph.

The power cable from the plant source can be run directly to the control panel or through the base of the machinery. To run the power cable through the base of the granulator, perform the following steps:

- 1. Open the back cover, and insert the power cable from underneath the granulator.
- 2. Pass the power cable through the appropriate hole, and insert it into the control panel through a connector placed at the base.
- 3. Connect the three phase wires to the appropriate terminals of the main switch, and connect the ground wire to the terminal provided near the main disconnect switch. (See Figure 10.)

Figure 10: Electrical Connections



4-4 Start-Up Checks

4-4-1 Checking the Cutting Chamber

Before starting the granulator, open the cutting chamber to ensure that during transportation or installation, no foreign objects have fallen in. The use of heavy gloves is recommended to avoid injury when exposed to the knives in the cutting chamber.

NOTE: This operation must be carried out by an operator / mechanical maintenance engineer.

Check that the cutting chamber is free from foreign objects as follows:

- 1. Turn off and lockout the machine power to the granulator or remove the fuses from the main control panel.
- 2. Open the front panel, and remove the bin.
- 3. Unscrew the screw knob(s), and carefully lower the screen. (See Figure 11.)

- 4. Pivot back the feed hopper to gain free access to the cutting chamber.
- 5. Check that there are no foreign objects in the cutting chamber.
- 6. Check to be sure the bed knife and rotor knife bolts are at the proper torque and the knife gap is set according to specifications. See Sections 4-4-4 and 6-4.
- 7. After completing the checks, close the hopper and screen, and fasten them with the corresponding knobs; reinsert the bin. Then close both the rear cover and the front panel.
- 8. Remove the drive belt guard by unscrewing the ten fastening screws.
- 9. Manually give the rotor at least one complete turn using the rotor pulley.
- 10. If there are no warning noises or signs of friction, this means the cutting chamber is completely clear. Replace the belt guard, remove lockout devices, and turn power on.

Figure 11: Removing the Screw Knob



4-4-2 Checking Rotation Direction

Check the correct direction of the rotor as follows:

- 1. Turn the main disconnect switch to "ON".
- 2. Pull the Start button until the motor comes up to speed; then push the button to stop the granulator motor.
- 3. Check via the appropriate window that the rotor direction corresponds to that shown on the arrow label that is located above the guard.

If the rotation direction is correct, the granulator is ready to use. If the rotation direction is incorrect, reverse the rotor direction as follows:

!!Warning!!

A LICENSED ELECTRICIAN must carry out this operation.

- 1. Disconnect and lockout the power to the machine at the incoming power source. If the disconnect is not lockable, remove the fuses.
- 2. Reverse any two of the three power line conductors to the machine. If there is more than one motor on the machine and only one is turning in the wrong direction, reverse any two of the three line conductors at the overload relay for that motor.
- 3. Unlock the power and switch the electrical disconnect switch to "ON". (Replace the fuses if necessary.)
- 4. Re-check the rotation direction of the motors.

4-4-3 Test the Interlock Switches

With the cutting chamber and screen cradle closed and power On, perform the following tests:

- 1. Push the start button to start the granulator.
- 2. Retract the screen cradle interlock actuator screw by turning it counterclockwise. Make sure that the end of the actuator screw is visible and clear of any contact. The granulator should stop.
- 3. If the machine continues to run, turn off and lockout the power.
- 4. Have the electrician check the interlock switch on the screen cradle to correct the malfunction.
- 5. If necessary, engage the screen cradle interlock actuator screw.

Having completed the above procedures, close the control panel. Unlock power or return the fuses in the supply panel, turning the disconnect switch to "ON". Pull the start button and release only when the motor has started, then check again that the rotor is turning in the correct direction.

4-4-4 Checking Knife Position

NOTE: This operation must be carried out by an operator / mechanical maintenance engineer.

Before undertaking any type of work on the machine, use a feeler gauge to check the distance between the bed knives and the rotor knives (the knife gap).

To access the cutting chamber, follow the same procedure and observe the precautionary steps given in Section 4-4-1. Before proceeding to the checks, it is advisable to block the rotor to avoid any inadvertent rotation.

Once you have safely accessed the cutting chamber, check the current distance between the bed knives and the rotor knives using a feeler gauge. (See Figure 12.)

NOTE: The distance set by the manufacturer for normal application is 0.006"-0.008" (0.15-0.20 mm). If the gap between the bed knives and the rotor knives is found to be greater than that, an adjustment must be made. (See Section 6-4: Inspection and Adjustment of Knives.)

Once you have checked the knife gap, close the hopper, secure it with the appropriate swing bolts, reinsert the bin, and close the front panel.

Figure 12: Checking the Knife Gap



5-1 Pre-Operational Checklist

To ensure the granulator is ready for operation, perform the tasks listed on the following pre-operational checklist. Make sure that all electrical and mechanical machine elements are inspected and any defects corrected first.

- Have all installation and preparation instructions been read and followed?
- ✓ Have the granulator operators and all other necessary personnel, such as the cleanout, maintenance and service persons, been fully trained on machine operation and all machine safety mechanisms?
- Have the granulator operator and all other necessary personnel, such as the cleanout, maintenance and service persons, read the Operation and Installation Manual?
- ☑ Have sufficient location clearances been allowed?
- ☑ Has the equipment been grounded as required by local codes and/or Article 250 of the National Electric Code?
- ☑ Have all motors been checked for proper rotation?
- Have all machine controls, pushbuttons, and limit switch interlocks been checked for proper functioning?
- ☑ Has the cutting chamber been checked for foreign matter?
- Have the drive components been checked for alignment and tension?
- ☑ Is the machine properly closed with all visible fasteners tight?
- Are all accessory components electrically and mechanically connected with proper support and with all fasteners tight?
- Are all electrical enclosure boxes tightly closed and clamped shut?
- ☑ Are all personnel clear of the machine?

5-2 Operation

The granulator can be operated in a vertical top feed position or in a horizontal front feed position.

Before starting the granulator, always check for and remove tools or any other objects placed on the granulator. Turn the Power disconnect switch to "ON", pull the Start button, and release it when the motor has started.

It is quite normal for the motor not to start immediately, as the electronic system must check all the micro switches before enabling start up procedures. Wait for the electric motor to reach normal rotating speed before feeding the granulator.

!!Warning!!

Never push material into the hopper with hands.

If the hopper becomes blocked, the granulator must be turned off, and the power must be locked out or the fuses removed.

Before stopping the granulator for the end of a working shift or for any other reason, stop feeding in the material to be granulated, and leave the granulator running for several minutes to allow the cutting chamber to completely granulate and empty the material inside. Press the lighted Start/Stop button, which will immediately turn off the granulator.

Important!

If the granulator stalls frequently during use, it may be necessary to adjust the calibration of the "overload." (Refer to the values shown in the electrical diagram.)

6-1 General Recommendations

Before carrying out any work on the granulator, carefully read the instructions contained in this manual.

NOTE: Only specialist and competent personnel should carry out this operation.

All maintenance work must be carried out with the granulator switched off and with the power supply disconnected and locked out.

Conduct that is not in accordance with the safety instructions in Section 1 may pose a threat to both personnel and equipment.

Instructions given in the maintenance procedures should be strictly followed.

Once the maintenance work is completed, before returning the granulator to service, check the following:

- Any parts that may have been replaced and/or tools that have been used are removed from the granulator.
- All safety equipment is in proper working condition.

Figure 13: Periodic Maintenance Table

Mechanical Check	Frequency
Knife clearance and wear	Weekly
Rotor knife retaining screws for tightness	Weekly
Downstroke bed knife and shield retaining screws for tightness	Weekly
Upstroke bed knife retaining screws for tightness	Weekly
Screen cradle arm screws for tightness	Weekly
Infeed chute & cutting chamber screws for tightness	Monthly

Important!

After the granulator has been used for the first day, adjust the drive belt tension. Correct tension for use should be the minimum at which the belt does not slip.

Check that the pulleys are correctly aligned.

6-2 Monthly Maintenance Operations

6-2-1 Drive Belt Tension

NOTE: This operation should be carried out by an operator / mechanical maintenance engineer.

For the granulator to function correctly, it is extremely important that the drive belt is always tight. Correct tension reduces the load of the rotor bearings and minimizes wear and stretching of the belt. To check and adjust belt tension, carry out the following procedure:

- 1. Turn off the machine and lockout power by using the disconnect switch, or remove the fuses from the electrical control panel.
- 2. Remove the belt guard by unscrewing the ten screws that hold it in place.
- 3. Open the front panel.
- 4. Remove the bin.
- 5. Open the rear panel.
- 6. Loosen the nuts that lock the motor base slide.
- 7. Loosen the tie rod
- 8. Adjust the belt tension, turning the tie rods forward.
- 9. Turn the tie rod to bring the motor square to the belt axis.
- 10. After the adjustment, lock the nuts again, and close the rear panel, refitting the proper locking latch.
- 11. Reinsert the bin, close the front panel, refit the belt guard and unlock the power or replace the fuses in the control panel.

6-2-2 Proper Belt Tension

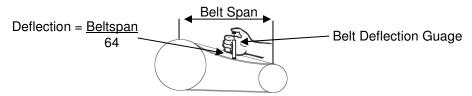
Measure the belt span and divide by 64 to get the allowable belt deflection. With a belt gauge, measure the force it takes to deflect the belt the amount calculated.

NOTE: Check your belt gauge's instructions for proper scale settings. Belt tension gauges are available from customer service or your belt manufacturer.

Compare the gauge reading with the chart value for the belt cross-section used. (See Figure 14)

Figure 14: Belt Tension Chart

Belt Cross Section	Small O.D. Range	*Deflection Force Lbs/V-belt	
		Run-In	Normal Running
3VX	3.7	7.0	4.7



For best performance, the force measured on the gauge should be between the minimum and maximum values shown on the chart. If there is not enough deflection force, the belts should be tightened. If there is too much deflection force, the belts should be loosened.

6-2-3 Belt Replacement

Important!

It is very important to replace all belts at the same time.

If the drive belts have to be replaced, follow the procedure in Section 6-2-1 up to Step 6. Then release the belt from tension by fully unscrewing the tie rods. Slip off the belts, and replace them with new ones. Continue with the procedure for adjusting the belt tension.

6-3 Removal and Replacement of the Screen

NOTE: A qualified operator/maintenance mechanic should carry out this procedure.

- 1. Switch the machine off and lockout power by turning the disconnect switch to "OFF", or remove the fuses from the main control pane.
- 2. Open the front panel.
- 3. Remove the bin.

^{*} The Deflection Force Value shown is for each belt and must be multiplied by the number of V-belt elements if all are deflected.

- 4. Remove the screw knob that holds the hopper on top of the cutting chamber. Carefully lower the screen cradle assembly, resting it on the base.
- 5. Remove the screen, keeping it in a horizontal position. (See Figure 15.)
- 6. Replace the screen with a new one, tighten the screw knob, reposition the bin, and close the front panel. Unlock the power and turn the machine back on.

Figure 15: Removing the Screen



6-4 Inspection and Adjustment of Knives

NOTE: This operation must be performed by a qualified operator / mechanical maintenance technician.

Important!

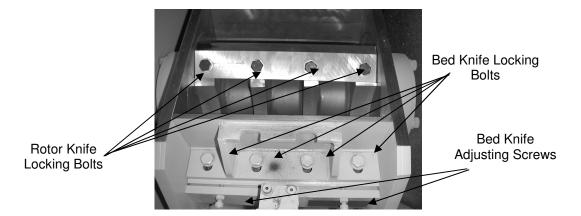
Before carrying out any maintenance on the cutting chamber, the operator must wear work gloves thick enough to avoid injury to the hands while touching sharp parts or the cutting edges of the blades.

To inspect blades, remove the screen by following steps 1-5 in Section 6-3. Then, proceed as follows:

- 1. Open the rear-closing panel by releasing the locking latch.
- 2. Pivot the in-feed hopper completely back to gain clear access to the cutting chamber, and clear any process material or foreign objects between the knives.
- 3. Turn the rotor slowly until the first row of rotor knives are in close proximity to the bed knife cutting edge. Turn the rotor backwards, keeping hands and fingers from directly contacting sharp knife-edges.

- 4. Using a feeler gauge, measure the gap between the rotor and knife cutting edges. Check each rotor knife to find the "high knife" or the knife that measures the smallest gap. If the gap is substantially greater than the specified 0.006" 0.008" (0.15 mm 0.2 mm), the knives need readjustment.
- 5. Loosen the bed knife locking bolts. (See Figure 16.)
- 6. Leave the two outside bolts just tight enough to allow the bed knife to move.
- 7. Loosen the adjustment screws and lock nuts. (See Figure 16.)
- 8. Insert a 0.006" 0.008" (0.15 mm 0.2 mm) thickness gauge between the cutting edge of the bed knife and that of the high rotor knife.
- 9. Adjust the bed knife into the rotor knife using the adjustment screws, so as to leave enough space for the thickness gauge to move.
 - NOTE: Check that the distance between the fixed and rotating knife is the same at both ends of each knife. Move the bed knife using the push adjusting screws a little at a time on each end.
- 10. When adjustment is complete, tighten the lock nuts on the adjustment screws.
- 11. Torque the bed knife bolts to 95 lbs./ft. (13 Kgm., 128 Nm) using a torque wrench.
- 12. Repeat the steps 4-11 to adjust the rear (or down stroke) bed knife. Turn the rotor slowly for one complete revolution, checking the exact distance between all the rotary knives and the bed knives.
- 13. Close the hopper and replace the screen and screen cradle, securing them in place using the swing bolts provided.
- 14. Close the front and rear doors, and unlock the power or replace the fuses in the control panel. Turn the disconnect switch to "ON".

Figure 16: Inspection of Knives



6-5 Removing and Replacing Bed Knives

NOTE: This procedure should be performed by a qualified operator / maintenance mechanic. Protective gloves must be worn to avoid injury when handling the cutting knives.

To remove and replace bed knives, complete the following procedure:

- 1. Open the granulator by following Steps 1-5 in Section 6-3.
- 2. Open the rear-closing panel by releasing the locking latch.
- 3. Pivot the in-feed hopper completely back to gain clear access to the cutting chamber, and clear any process material or foreign objects from between the knives.
- 4. Rotate the rotor so that the rotor knives will not interfere with the removal of the bed knife. Using a wooden block, block the rotor to prevent it from rotating while removing the knives.
- 5. Loosen the lock nuts and back off the adjustment screws. (See Figure 16.)
- 6. Loosen and remove the bed knife bolts and lift the upper shield, positioned above the knife, removing it from the cutting chamber. The bed knife may now be removed.
- 7. Perform the above steps to remove the rear (upstroke) bed knife as well.

NOTE: Before replacing the bed knife with new or sharpened knives, wipe the knife seats on the knife block, being sure to clean off all process material. The tapped holes in the knife block (used for holding the knives in place) should be clear of any dirt, oil, or process material.

- 8. Install new or sharpened bed knives on each knife seat, making sure that the rotor is blocked to prevent it from rotating while installing each knife. Be sure to place the bed knives in the correct positions—the rear (down stroke) bed knife must be placed with the extended cutting edge on top, and the front (upstroke) bed knife should be placed with the cutting edge on the bottom.
- 9. Replace the upper shields in position above the bed knives. The shield on the rear (down stroke) bed knife should be positioned so that the inside edge is set back approximately 1/32" from the cutting edge below it.
- 10. Before re-installing the knife bolts, wipe them clean with a lightly oil-damped cloth. Do not leave an oil film on the bolt since lubrication can adversely affect the stress on the bolt when torqued to the specified values. It is recommended that the knife bolts be replaced with each new set of knives. This will reduce the risk of bolt failure due to overstretching. Always use the specified replacement bolts.
- 11. Tighten the bed knife bolts at each end of the knife just enough to keep the knife in place, while still allowing the adjusting screws to move the knife forward. The remaining bolts can be left hand tight until the knife is adjusted.
- 12. Adjust the knife gaps with the rotor knives and close the machine, following Steps 8-14 in Section 6-4.

6-6 Removal and Replacement of Rotating Blades

NOTE: A qualified operator / maintenance mechanic should perform this operation. Protective gloves must be worn to avoid injury when handling the cutting knives.

To remove and replace rotor knives, complete the following procedure:

- 1. Open the granulator by following Steps 1-5 in Section 6-3.
- 2. Open the rear-closing panel by releasing the locking latch.
- 3. Pivot the in-feed hopper completely back to gain clear access to the cutting chamber, and clear any process material or foreign objects from between the knives.
- 4. Rotate the rotor so that the knife bolts are in a convenient position to remove the bolts with the appropriate wrench. Using a wooden block, block the rotor to prevent it from rotating while removing knives or after a knife has been removed.

- 5. Loosen and remove the knife bolts and lift the knife off the knife seat removing it from the cutting chamber.
- 6. Perform the above steps until all the rotor knives are removed.

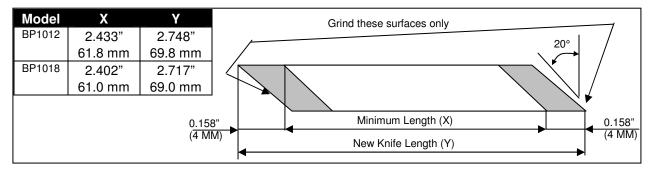
NOTE: Before replacing the rotor knife with new or sharpened knives, wipe the knife seats on the rotor, being sure to clean off all process material. The tapped holes in the rotor (used for holding the knives in place) should be clear of any dirt, oil, or process material.

- 7. Loosen the bed knife bolts and adjusting screws, and pull back the bed knife so that the rotor knives will collide as they are installed and rotated.
- 8. Install new or sharpened knives on each knife seat, making sure that the rotor is still blocked to prevent it from rotating while installing each knife.
- 9. Before re-installing the knife bolts, wipe them clean with a lightly oil-damped cloth. Do not leave an oil film on the bolt since lubrication can adversely affect the stress on the bolt when torqued to the specified values. It is recommended that the knife bolts be replaced with each new set of knives. This will reduce the risk of bolt failure due to overstretching. Always use the specified replacement bolts.
- 10. Tighten each set of the knife bolts; making sure that the knife is seated against the back heel in the rotor seat. Before torquing the bolts, check that a 0.001" feeler gage cannot fit between the heel and the back of the knife.
- 11. Torque the rotor knife bolts to 100 Lbs./ft. (14 Kgm, 135 Nm).
- 12. Adjust the knife gap with the bed knives and close the machine, following Steps 8-14 in Section 6-4.

6-7 Specifications for Re-sharpening Bed Knives

Every bed knife has two cutting edges, one on each side. When a blade becomes worn, the knives can be rotated. To regrind these knives, refer to the data shown in Figure 17. Replacement of these knives is necessary when their length falls below the recommended tolerance.

Figure 17: Bed Knife Specifications



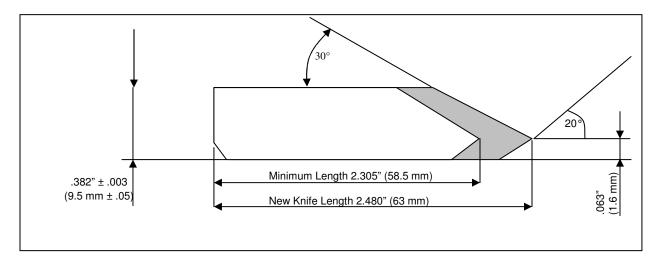
6-8 Specifications for Re-sharpening Rotor Knives

All the rotor knives must be re-sharpened in sets. Each knife within a set must have a tolerance within 0.003" (0.05 mm) for the total height, heel to cutting edge. Greater variations within a set will result in improper knife gap settings and other operational problems. See Figure 18 for rotor knife specifications.

Knives below the minimum dimension specified must not be used. Using knives below the specified minimum can cause interference resulting in serious damage to the rotor and cutting chamber.

When using a surface grinder to re-sharpen the rotor or bed knives, it is not harmful to allow a few small nicks to remain on the cutting edge. Grinding the knife so that the cutting edge is free from all nicks can be wasteful.

Figure 18: Rotor Knife Specifications



The following tables list problems that could occur when using the granulator. This general information may help to locate the cause of the problem and allow it to be resolved promptly. When a problem arises, it is advisable to perform the simplest checks before proceeding to more complicated ones, which may subsequently prove unnecessary.

7-1 General Problems

Problem	Possible Causes	Possible Remedies		
Overheating of bearings	Dirt or contamination in the bearing	Correct source of contamination		
	Excessive belt tension			
		Adjust belt tension		
	No lubrication	Check bearing seals		
Knives moving in their	There may be foreign matter on the	Carefully clean seat		
seats	knives			
	Knife screws loose	Tighten screws with torque wrench at values specified		
	Knife screws weakened	Screws must not be used more than 6 times		
Broken knife	Improper resharpening	Check knife grinding method used		
		Contact supplier		
	Extremely hard material	Contact supplier		
		Check rotor direction		
	Incorrect rotor direction	Look for cause with operator		
	Foreign body in the cutting chamber	200K for Gados with operator		
	Faulty fitting of screen	Check assembly procedure		
Excessive knife wear	Incorrect knife position	Correct the gap or distance between bed knives and rotor knives		
	Improper knife re-sharpening	Check dimensions with Figure 17 and Figure 18.		
	Abrasive material	Contact the supplier for special knives		
Abnormal screen wear	Incorrect fitting of screen	Check that the screen is correctly seated in its rear position and that it fits perfectly at the front.		

Problem	Possible Causes	Possible Remedies
	Abrasive material	Contact the supplier for special knives
Rotor Jamming	Excessive infeed material	Reduce amount of material being fed to the machine
	Total or partial obstruction of the screen holes	Remove the screen and clear the holes
	Insufficient belt tension	Check and/or adjust belt tension
	Knives worn	Replace with new knives
	Distance between the knives too small or too large	Check distance between knives
	Screen holes too small	Increase screen hole diameter
	Failure of air conveying system or discharge system	Check fan rotation and that pipes are not obstructed

7-2 Electrical Problems

Problem	Possible Causes	Possible Remedies
Machine stops for no apparent reason	Safety switch has stopped power	Check that the knobs that operate the safety switch are tightened
Electric motor does not start	No power	Check fuses
	Overload failure	Check amperage of electric motor
	Safety switch not working	Check and replace
	Cutting chamber too full	Empty cutting chamber
Motor starts but does not speed up or take a load	Excessive drive belt tension	Check belt tension and adjust
	Motor connected to power source incorrectly	Reconnect correctly
	Defective starter winding	Check current in each phase. If substantial difference between phases, contact motor manufacturer
Motor starts, but does not gain speed	Bearing excessively worn	Replace bearings
	Cutting chamber full	Empty cutting chamber

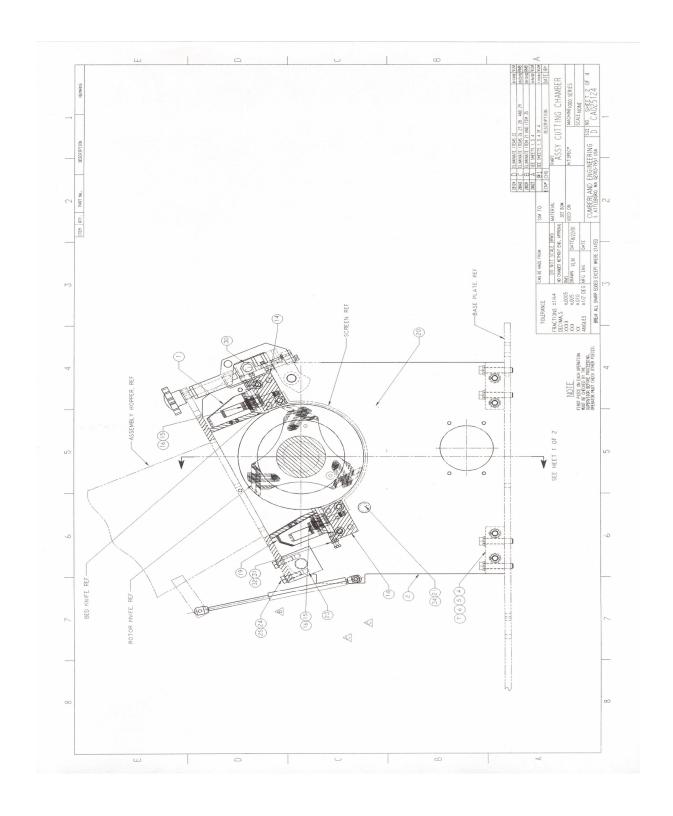
When requesting spare parts, always quote the granulator model and serial number (from the granulator label), as well as the table number and reference number (from the spare parts tables) and the quantity required.

8-1 Table 1: Recommended Spare Parts List

<u>ltem</u>	1012	1018 Quantity	<u>Material</u>
	Quantity	Quantity	
Rotor Knife	3	3	HCHC
Rotor Knife Screw	12	15	GR 10.9 M12 x 40MM
Bed Knife	2	2	HCHC
Bed Knife Screw	8	10	GR 10.9 M12 x 60MM
Bed Knife Washer	8	10	Hardened
Screen	1	1	Specify Hole Size Required
Rotor Bearing	2	2	65MM Bore
Drive Belt	2	2	Qty. Depends on HP
Bed Knife Adj. Screw	4	4	GR
Interlock Switch	1	1	

^{*} When ordering a screen, always specify the diameter of the holes required.

Figure 19: Cutting Chamber – Vertical Cross Section

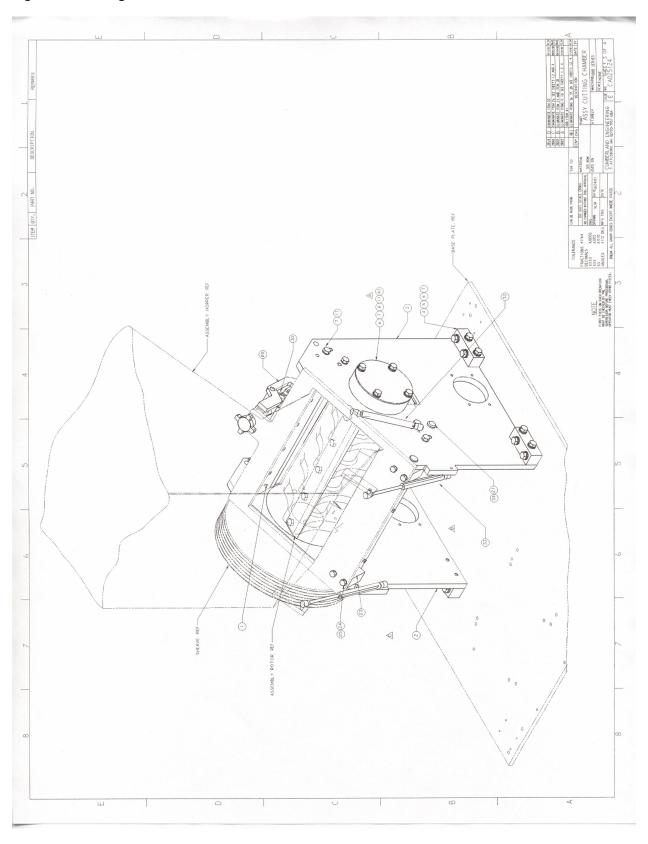


FOR ISOMETRIC VIEWS SEE SHEETS 3 & 4 0

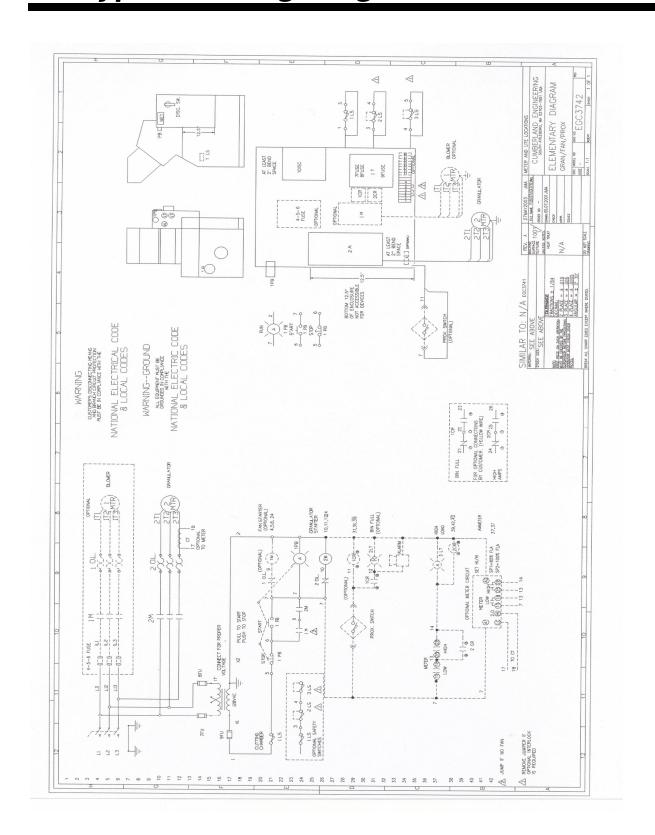
Figure 20: Cutting Chamber – Longitudal Cross Section

Figure 21: Cutting Chamber – Front View

Figure 22: Cutting Chamber – Rear View



9 Typical Wiring Diagram





Parts Department

Call *Spare Parts Express* toll-free 8am – 8PM EST (800) 229-2919. Sterling OEM quality replacement and spare parts ensure operation at design specifications. Please have the model and serial number of your equipment when you call. Consult the Customer Parts List included in your information packet for replacement part numbers.



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Service Notes

Warranty

Sterling warrants all equipment manufactured by it to be free from defects in workmanship and material when used under recommended conditions. The Company's obligation is limited to repair or replace FOB the factory any parts that are returned prepaid within one year of equipment shipment to the original purchaser, and which, in the Company's opinion, are defective. Any replacement part assumes the unused portion of this warranty.

This parts warranty does not cover any labor charges for replacement of parts, adjustment repairs, or any other work. This warranty does not apply to any equipment which, in the Company's opinion, has been subjected to misuse, negligence, or operation in excess of recommended limits or which has been repaired or altered without the Company's express authorization. If the serial number has been defaced or removed from the component, the warranty on that component is void. Defective parts become the property of the warrantor and are to be returned.

The Company is not liable for any incidental, consequential, or special damages or expenses. The Company's obligation for parts not furnished as components of its manufactured equipment is limited to the warranty of the manufacturers of said parts.

Any sales, use, excise, or other tax incident to the replacement of parts under this warranty is the responsibility of the purchaser.

The company neither assumes nor authorizes any other persons to assume for it any liability in connection with the sale of its equipment not expressed in this warranty.

Many types of Sterling equipment carry an additional one-year service policy. Consult your Sterling sales representative for specific details.



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